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**Report 02.424**

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Report to the Landcare Committee  
from Rob Forlong, Divisional Manager, Landcare

## **Divisional Manager's Report**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

### **2. Managers' Reports**

The Departmental Managers' Reports are attached.

### **3. 2001/02 Year End**

Now that the financial year is over it's a good time to reflect on the work done and what we have achieved. You will see that this Order Paper concentrates on the Parks and Forests Performance Indicators and provides a detailed wrap-up of what has been achieved over the past twelve months. It makes impressive reading.

The next Order Paper will include similar material from Flood Protection. We will also include an oral presentation of the work completed by our Flood Protection field staff.

All in all it has been a fruitful year with a considerable amount of work completed. There have been a few projects delayed (such as the Findlay St works and Baring Head Bridge) but those delays have been due to factors beyond our control. I am pleased to report that for the first time for a number of years we will be going into the new financial year without a significant "carry over" of jobs from the previous year – due mainly to the hard work of the staff and the lack of major floods.

The Flood Protection defences have had two low level tests (22 November 2001 and 18 June 2002) and have come through them well. In fact, the lack of damage during the five year return period event on 18 June was a pleasant surprise – even to Geoff Dick and Jeff Evans.

#### 4. **Arbor Day**

The second of two Arbor Day events was held at Summit Yards in the Pakuratahi Forest on 6 July 2002. As usual, the event was well supported by the public and by Councillors (and their Labradors).

The day was very successful and we planting a number of trees near the stream edge at the yards.

In addition, Councillor Shields was presented with the Rail Heritage Trust Award for the WRC's work in restoring the historic bridges on the railway formation. The award is great recognition for the Parks and Forests team and will be proudly displayed in our Upper Hutt Depot.

Once again, special thanks to Angie Gooch and Ross Jackson who organised things and to the ranger team who prepared the sausage sizzle and cleaned up afterwards. I'd also like to thank the Parks and Forests office crew who voluntarily gave up their Saturday to attend and help out.

#### 5. **Staffing**

By now many of you will have met Tina Walker, our new Divisional Accountant. Tina brings a strong management accounting background which was very necessary as we threw her in the deep end – Tina's first job was to calculate the river rates!

We are also losing Rebecca Clarke our Assistant Accountant. Rebecca and her partner are moving to Ohakune to develop a business opportunity. Rebecca has been a keen and productive staff member behind the scenes, and we will all miss her constant smile and good work.

#### 6. **Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

- (1) **Receive** the report.
- (2) **Note** the contents of the report.

Report prepared by:

ROB FORLONG  
Divisional Manager, Landcare

**Attachment 1 : Departmental Reports**